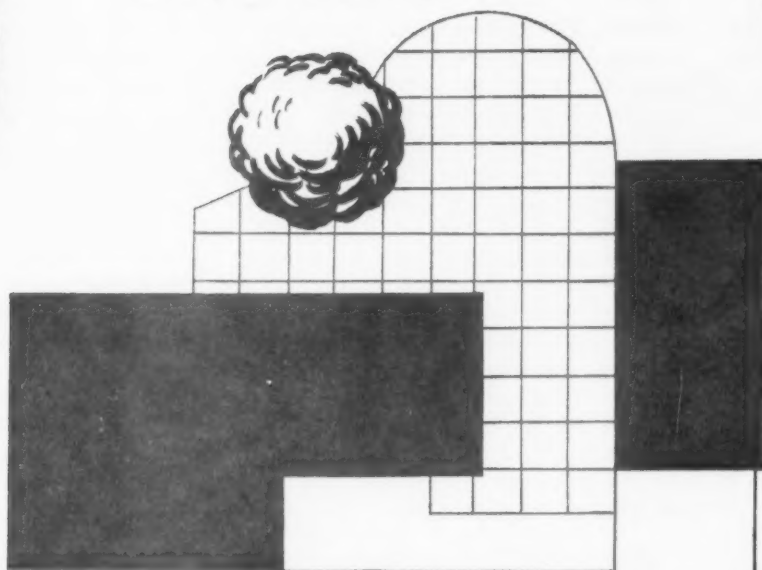




Border Plantings and Outdoor Living Rooms for Rural and Urban Properties

by Donald J. Bushey



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New York State College of Agriculture

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How to Use This Bulletin

HOME GROUNDS should be planned for family outdoor living and recreation; that is, for lawn games, picnicking, gardening, or resting. Border plantings are used to define both these areas and property lines as well as to screen an uninteresting or displeasing view. For those persons who are more garden minded, the planning of a home property presents a challenge. It is an opportunity to do something individual and different. Clever planning and taking advantage of the existing characteristics of the home grounds will produce satisfying living for the garden hobbyist and for those who take pride in their home. Many whose livelihood is made from indoor work frequently find relaxation in working in a garden.

It may be profitable to read this entire bulletin and study the illustrations before you begin your plans even though some of the headings may indicate that a particular section has no relation to your situation. Seldom are the position of the house, garage, and other buildings, the position of existing shade trees, and the slope of the ground the same on all properties. Therefore, you can use no one of the plans shown in its entirety. You will have to make adjustments to conform to the variations on your property. You may, however, take some ideas from one plan and some from another. In this way, your own plan will take shape according to your needs and to the opportunities afforded on your property. The natural features of your property, for example, may give you a clue as to what can be done. A group of trees may be used as a picnic area, a shady place for a wild-flower and fern garden, and a low wet place for plants that naturally do well in such places. There are many plants (marked §, pages 27 to 29) of special ornamental value for such locations.

The plans shown are drawn to scale, but no dimensions are given. Neither foundation plantings for the house nor shade trees are shown on these plans unless they supplement the border plantings. These are discussed in Cornell Extension Bulletins 778, *Foundation Planting about the House*, and 724, *Shade Trees for the Home Lawn*. It is well to remember that border plantings near driveways and sidewalks may cause a snow drift where you want it to be or, maybe, where you do not want it. These are discussed in Cornell Extension Bulletin 693, *Driveways and Sidewalks*.

If the arrangement of your property is similar to any of the plans

illustrated here but is reversed, that is, the driveway on the other side of the house, turn the page over and hold it up to the light. Seeing it from the other side will reverse the arrangement.

The numbers in the plan refer to the corresponding plant groups listed on pages 26 to 30.

After you have read the Bulletin and studied the plans, make a list of the plants you want to include in the development of your property and draw a *tentative* plan. Except for a few carefully placed shade trees, keep the lawn areas open, not broken up with specimen shrubs and flower beds. If your lawn now has specimen shrubs, plan to transplant them to locations where they will conform to a better layout—one that will be easier to maintain. Select your choice of plants from the proper size group (pages 26 to 30). Included in the plant lists is information on the proper spacing of the plants named. Choose plants for each place with regard to their mature size, and space the plants to allow for their full growth. A good planting appears rather sparse for a few years. If you wish to obtain a more nearly immediate effect, you may place some temporary shrubs or other plants between the permanent ones. As soon as the filler plants begin to crowd the permanent plants, remove the fillers.

Stake the plan completely on your property. Include everything that does not now exist; walks and driveways, the border plantings, fences, trees, flower beds, outdoor terrace, fireplace, lawn areas for games, vegetable garden, clothes drying yard, and other features. In the final plan you may add other things if there is room for them or you may have to do without some of the things you wanted if there is no room. This procedure will save you money as well as time, and you will have a more satisfying property that meets the needs of your whole family.

Border Plantings and Outdoor Living Rooms for Rural and Urban Properties

DONALD J. BUSHEY

USUALLY, border plantings extend along a property line but, on medium to large places, they may extend into the lawn to divide the home grounds into sections for different uses. Sometimes they are placed where they screen or block the view from the front to a side or rear lawn. A planted border may separate the vegetable garden or other service area from the lawn or provide seclusion for a picnic area or outdoor terrace. Openings in these "inside borders" give easy access from one enclosed area to another and to all parts of the grounds.

The type of border planting used on your home grounds depends on the location of your property with respect to adjacent properties, the size of the property, and the function the planting is to fulfill. Homes in relatively closely built-up sections, cities, and villages, probably need some privacy in certain parts of the lawn, usually at the side of the house or to the rear. To obtain privacy in this place, make a border planting in the line of view from the outside and tall enough to obstruct the line of vision (figure 1).

Farm, rural non-farm, and other large properties may not need a border planting. Frequently, privacy is provided by the location of the house itself with respect to nearby homes and public thoroughfares. In places of this kind a judiciously placed group of tall-growing shrubs in the line of vision from the front may be all that is needed.

On relatively level ground, you may use a border of shrubs or a vine-covered fence at least 5½ to 6 feet high to screen a view (figure 1,A). On sloping land or where the ground has been graded on different levels, the border need not be this high. As illustrated in figure 1 (B and C), a planting from 3 to 4 feet high interrupts the line of vision from the outside to the lawn that is to be used for outdoor living.

If your property is in a closely built-up section, you may want a border planting parallel to your property line. Such a planting is sometimes made jointly by adjacent property owners. Usually the shrubs are planted alternately on the two properties, each owner planting those on his side (figure 2,F). If one home owner does the work without the aid of his neighbor, the planting should be made entirely on the property of the one doing the work (figure 2).

Planting a border or building a fence directly on a property line is not recommended. A shrub planting should be 18 inches or more within the owner's line, but a fence may be within a few inches of the property line. Keep any shrubs set close to the line from encroaching on your neighbor's property by trimming unless you have a mutual agreement to let them grow naturally. On large properties where the extra space is not important, a shrub border should be from 2½ to 3 feet inside the owner's property to allow for the normal growth of the plants in width.

The Front Lawn

Properties in urban areas

It is assumed here that the homes along the street are relatively close together with few, if any, vacant lots and that the existing homes are 25 feet, a little more or less, back from the street.

A front lawn is considered a public or semi-public area. From the

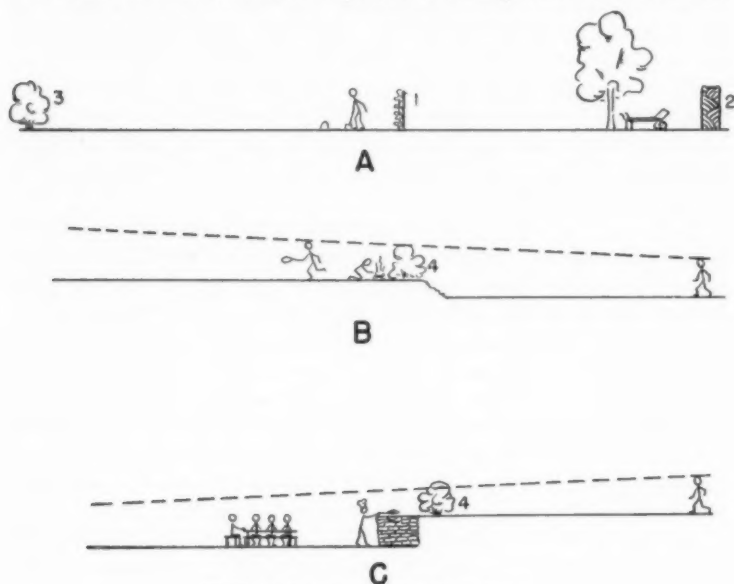


Figure 1. Border planting for privacy

A. On level ground, the border planting should be 5½ or more feet in height to give privacy. This border might be a vine-covered fence (1), a clipped hedge (2), a single row of shrubs (3), or an informal border composed of shrubs and flowers.

B and C. On sloping ground, either up or down, the border need be only 3 or 4 feet high to give privacy.

standpoint of the appearance of the entire street, it is usually better to have no border plantings separating the front lawn from the street (figures 3 to 7). Nor should there be side border plantings completely separating the adjacent front lawns, because a street appears more spacious with unbroken lawns extending throughout its length, except, of course, for a few properly placed shade trees and the necessary driveways and sidewalks. These are discussed in Cornell Extension Bulletins 693, *Driveways and Sidewalks*, and 724, *Trees for the Home Lawn*.

Individual wishes or requirements may make this ideal lawn arrangement for the street difficult to achieve, because some barrier may be needed to prevent a path or other encroachment on the lawn, and some home owners may wish to have a side or front border purely for ornament. The type of enclosure for either use is governed largely by the purpose the planting is to serve and by the amount of space available in width for it. The nearness of a driveway or sidewalk frequently limits the planting. If a sturdy barrier is needed, a vine-covered fence, a clipped hedge, or an unclipped border of dense, low-growing shrubs may be used. A vine-covered fence requires a space at least 1 foot wide; if more room is available, a flower border 2 feet or more in width and placed adjacent to the fence helps to make the planting more attractive (figure 2,C). A low-clipped hedge requires a width of 2 feet or a little more (figure 2,D), while a single row of unclipped low-growing shrubs requires a space 3 feet or a little more in width. A clipped hedge needs a considerable amount of maintenance. If you choose a fence or a shrub border, either should be relatively low, approximately 3 feet high. A high planting conceals the view and is a traffic hazard.

Even though you make a planting or place a fence at each side, it is not necessary to have a fence or planting across the front. If you want a complete enclosure, not all of it needs to be the same. A fence at each side and a planting across the front or a fence across the front and plantings at the side would be good. If there are large shade trees along the street, use a fence across the front because the shade and root competition given by the trees inhibits the growth of near-by shrubs.

Remember that the front property line is usually about 1 foot inside the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, measure half of the width of the street from the center of the roadway to locate your front property line (figure 2,A).

If you use a fence across the front, place it on your own property, not on public property. If you make a planting across the front, put it at least 2 feet inside the private property so it will not encroach on the sidewalk.

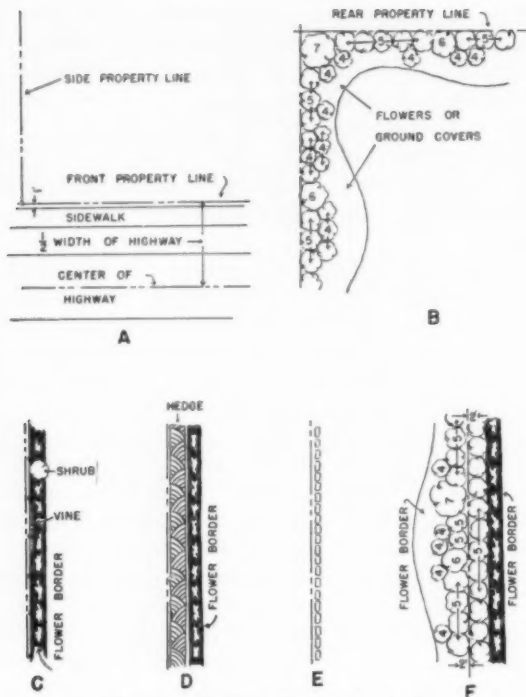


Figure 2. Types of border plantings

A. The position of the front property line is determined by the total width of the public highway. The public sidewalk usually is on land owned by the community.

B. Informal border plantings of shrubs and flowers require a width of from 8 to 12 feet or more. Therefore, these are most suitably used on a large property.

C. A vine-covered fence forms a good enclosure for small properties. The fence should be at least 5½ feet high to obtain privacy. On rural properties, the fence need be only about 3 or 4 feet high and should not be completely covered with vines. If desired shrubs and flower borders may be used in front of the fence.

D. A clipped hedge requires a width of from 3 to 5 feet. A flower border may or need not be used in front of it.

E. A low stone wall suitably defines the edge of the maintained lawn on rural home properties.

F. A border is sometimes planted jointly by adjacent property owners. One side is shown here in an informal manner, the other side with a single row of shrubs. The shrubs on either side of the property line are placed alternately.

Note: The soil underneath shrubs is cultivated. For a few years the weeds will need to be hoed. Later, as the shrubs mature, the ground underneath them is densely shaded and few weeds will grow there. Weeds can further be discouraged by planting shade-tolerant ground covers, plants listed in size group 2 and starred, under the shrubs.

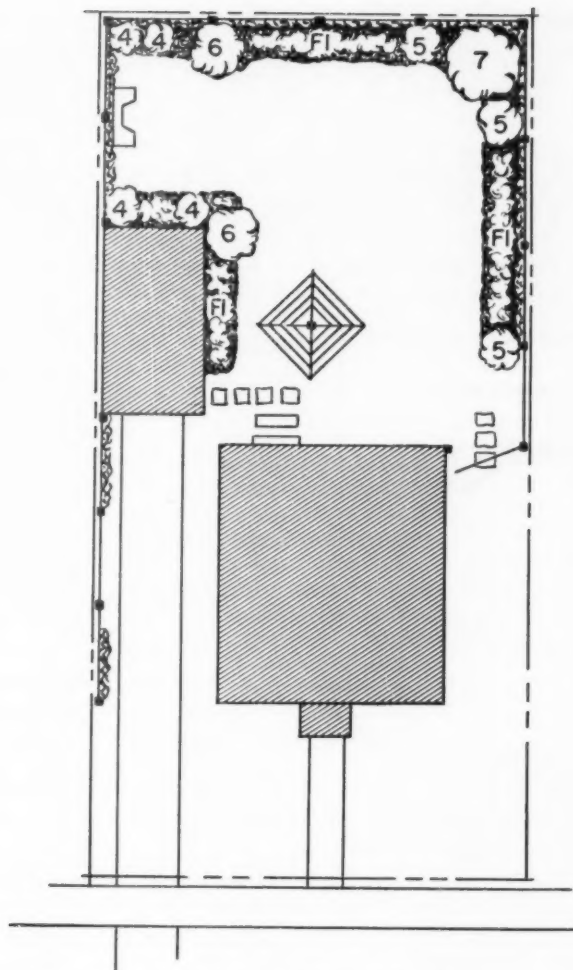


Figure 3. A small enclosed lawn

In this plan a vine-covered fence, a few shrubs, and flower borders enclose the small rear lawn. The fence extending forward from the garage can be lower than the rest of the fence. Stepping stones lead from the back door of the house to the garage and through the gate at the rear right corner of the house. Croquet, badminton, and tether ball could be played on this small lawn. The plan could be altered to have a clothes drying yard or small vegetable garden behind the garage. If a fireplace is needed, it could be placed against the rear fence facing the house.

Properties in rural areas

Most rural properties, farm and non-farm, have a wider front lawn than do village and city places. Also, rural properties usually have a pasture, a cultivated or unkept field bordering the lawn on each side. If your situation is of this kind, it may be best to define the maintained lawn with a fence or border planting at the side edges of the lawn and extending to the front of the property. Usually a fence is preferred. Use a type of fence that is in keeping with the situation. A 2- or 3-board fence of simple design is appropriate for most rural places. Paint the fence white or the same color as the house. An unpainted rail or hurdle fence is more in keeping with a home in a naturalistic setting or with a house of rustic architecture.

Instead of a fence you may prefer an informal border of shrubs; if so, select shrubs of low-growing varieties over which a view is obtained of the road approach. For many rural properties, a low, stone wall makes a good border. Be sure that the fence, wall, or planting is

in keeping with a home in a naturalistic setting or with a house of rustic architecture.

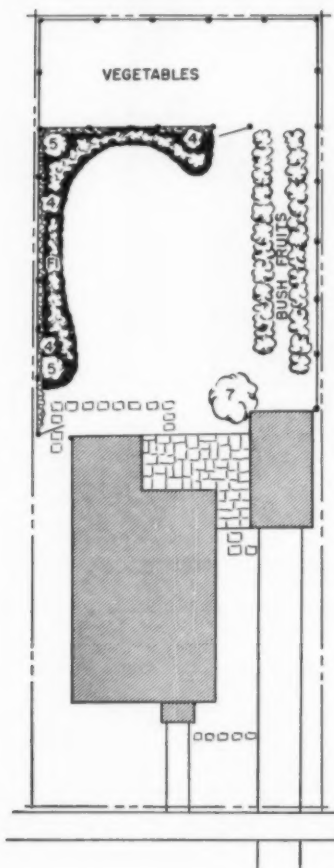


Figure 4. A deep lot

In this deep lot, the vegetable garden is placed at the back and the fence separating it from the lawn is from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet high, lower than the $5\frac{1}{2}$ -foot fence that encloses the back lawn. If no bush fruits are wanted in the space behind the garage, it could be used for asparagus, rhubarb, or a picnic area with outdoor fireplace. The vegetable garden could be eliminated, the lawn extended, and the flower border placed next to the rear fence. If desired, the flower bed along the left property line could be done away with, leaving only a vine-covered fence on this side. A clipped hedge could be used to enclose the rear lawn and a fence to enclose the vegetable garden. Hooks could be placed in the side of the garage and in the opposite wing of the house to support a removable clothes line. Stepping stones lead from the terrace to the gate at the left, from the terrace to the driveway and from the front sidewalk to the driveway.

on your own property, and not on that belonging to the public highway.

Vines may be grown on the fence and irregularly spaced shrubs may be planted in front of it. If you wish, you may plant a flower border 2½ feet or more wide in front and close to the fence. The flower border need not extend the entire length.

What is done between the house and the road depends somewhat upon the distance between them. If your house is fairly close to the road, the front lawn need not be separated from it with a fence or a planting of shrubs. The lawn could extend to the roadside. If, however, some division seems desirable, a fence of suitable design is usually preferred, particularly if there are large roadside trees growing there.

Rural dwellers whose homes are several hundred feet back from the highway may not want to maintain a lawn for this entire depth. A fence, a low stone wall, or a border planting of low-growing shrubs could be placed at the front portion of the area to be mowed regularly with a lawn mower. Outside this area a grain crop could be planted or it could be allowed to develop naturally with field grasses. Mowing (once) during the summer in June with a sickle-bar mower will keep such areas tidy. This space might also be used as a pasture for grazing calves or sheep. The Cornell Agronomists suggest planting this area with a mixture of 5 pounds of broadleaf birdsfoot trefoil mixed with 10 pounds of Kentucky bluegrass for each acre. The narrowleaf birdsfoot trefoil is a lower growing variety and could be substituted for the broadleaf trefoil.

Side-Lawn Border Plantings

Small properties in villages and cities

A side-lawn area is that portion of the lawn between the house and the side property line. On narrow properties, this space is considerably limited and there is room for little more than the foundation planting. Foundation plantings are discussed in Cornell Extension Bulletin 778. Start this side border planting somewhat back of the rear corner of the house (figures 3, 4, 5, and 6).

If there is 12 feet or a little more from the house or garage to the side property line, you may use a flower border or vine-covered fence or both along the boundary opposite the house (figures 5 and 7). Select any shrubs used in this border from size group 3 or 4 (pages 27 to 28). These shrubs do not grow tall enough to block the view. An exception to this would be in a situation where more height is needed for shade or privacy. Then use tall-growing shrubs and one or two small trees

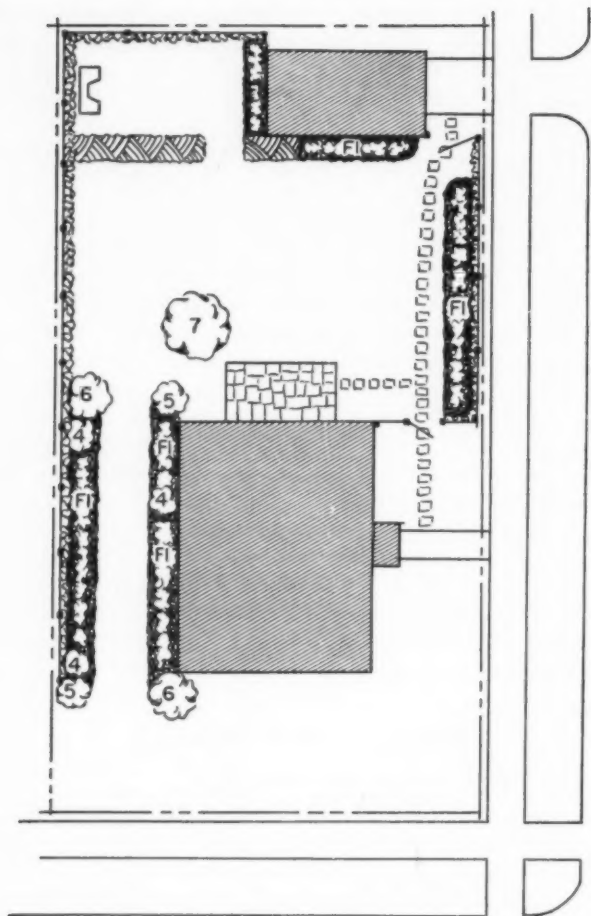


Figure 5. A corner lot

This corner lot is somewhat wider than those shown in figures 3 and 4. A 5½-foot vine-covered fence encloses the rear lawn but the fence opposite the house at the left may be stepped down to about 3 feet high. A grass path extends between the two flower borders at the side of the house. A flagstone terrace is at the back of the house. The picnic area suggested back of the garage might instead be a small vegetable garden. Either could be separated from the lawn by a low-clipped hedge or a low fence. If additional space for flowers is wanted, a bed could be prepared next to the fence along the left side. If less space is needed for flowers, the bed beside the fence at the right side of the property could be omitted. Stepping stones lead from the terrace to the garage and to the entrance gate.

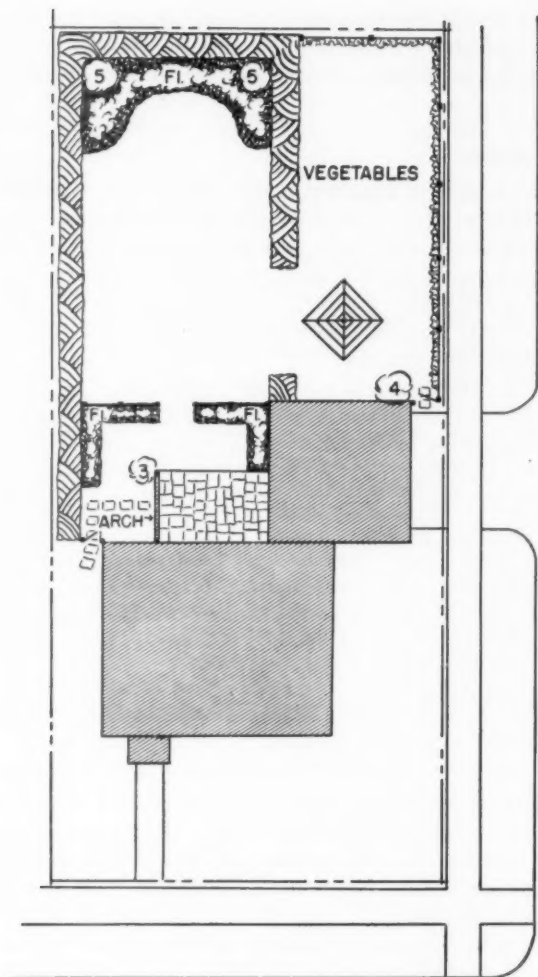


Figure 6. A corner lot

This plan of a corner lot shows the use of different types of border plantings. A vine-covered fence encloses the vegetable garden and clipped hedge encloses the lawn area. A low fence encloses a small intimate flower garden near the terrace. Flowers also are used at the back of the lawn. The clothes drying yard is at the side of the garage. An alternate suggestion would be to construct a sturdy arch of wood, and locate it at the left end of the terrace. Hooks placed in the arch and in the back wall of the garage would support a removable clothesline.

(size group 6, page 29). You may trim the side branches of the small trees high enough for head room.

Wide urban properties may be planned as is suggested for rural properties.

Rural properties

On wide properties, usually the space between the side of the house or garage and the property line is wider than on narrow properties. If, however, this space is small on one side or the other, the same ideas that have been suggested for small properties can be carried out. This is a logical arrangement for the side of the house on which the garage and driveway are located, provided these service areas are on the less spacious side of the grounds.

If the space at the side of the house opposite the garage and driveway is 20 feet or more in width, it may have a simple fence or a border planting. Something more elaborate may be done with a flower garden or terrace or both (figures 7 and 8). In either of these plans, the flower garden is where it can be enjoyed from the house as well as from outside.

Larger side-lawn areas may be used for lawn games and for other outdoor recreation. The plans of rural properties do not contain so much detail in the plantings as do the plans of small properties, because of the small scale used for the large property plans. The detail for the plantings on rural homes can be patterned after similar ones on the small property plans.

Grading

SLOPING LAWNS may need some grading to obtain more level areas. Level or slightly sloping lawns are more usable than sharply sloping lawns. Frequently, a small amount of grading, equalizing a cut and fill, gives the desired results (figure 9). This grading usually leaves one or more steep banks where a cut or fill is made. The bank will vary in height with the amount of grading necessary. These slopes may be planted with low, ground covers or dwarf shrubs. Sometimes the slope is supported with a dry stone wall or a masonry wall. How to landscape slopes is discussed in Cornell Extension Bulletin 749.

The distance from the foundation wall of the house to the planted slope or stone wall varies with what is to be done in this area. A dwarf shrub and flower border next to the house requires from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet. Large shrubs need a space from 5 to 6 feet wide. If you want a flagstone or grass outdoor living terrace, make the slope a minimum of

8 feet from the house foundation. A terrace 10 or 12 feet wide would be better.

If there is no door in the outside wall of the house for convenient access from the house to the terrace, maybe you can make a window into a doorway by taking out the wall below the window and installing a door frame and door.

The grading described here may be done on any side of the house.

Development of a Rear Lawn

ON MOST properties, a rear lawn is the part best suited for the outdoor living area. The ideas and illustrations presented here show a few ways to obtain privacy. The house and sometimes the garage block a portion of the view from the front, and border plantings, or vine-covered fences make the rest of the enclosure. On level ground, the planting or fence should be 6 feet or more in height (figure 1,A), above eye level. Use vines from size group 1 or shrubs from size group 5 or 6. On sloping ground, you may alter the planting as illustrated in figure 1 (B and C).

How the lawn will be used depends on the interests of the family. Parents and children may want an open lawn area for lawn games.¹ Those interested in eating outdoors may want to build an outdoor fireplace.² Some may want a pool where they may grow aquatic plants.³ Others may want a vegetable garden.⁴ Home owners interested in flower growing may want extra space and equipment to start and grow several varieties of certain kinds of plants.⁵ The proportion of space devoted to growing vegetables or flowers varies with the individual. Some may want a larger vegetable garden than flower garden; others may prefer more flowers than vegetables.

Properties in villages and cities

The best all-purpose plantings where other established residences surround the home grounds to be developed is governed largely by the width and depth of the rear lawn.

Narrow properties, about 50 feet in width, are best enclosed at the sides by a vine-covered fence, as this type of border requires a width

¹*Lawn Games for 4-H Club Boys and Girls*, 4-H Club Bulletin 68.

²*Outdoor Fireplaces*, Cornell Extension Bulletin 612.

³*Pools for Home Grounds*, Cornell Extension Bulletin 265.

⁴*The Vegetable Garden*, Cornell Extension Bulletin 696.

⁵*Growing Garden Flowers From Seed*, Cornell Extension Bulletin 579.

Structures for Starting and Growing Ornamental Plants, Cornell Extension Bulletin 468.

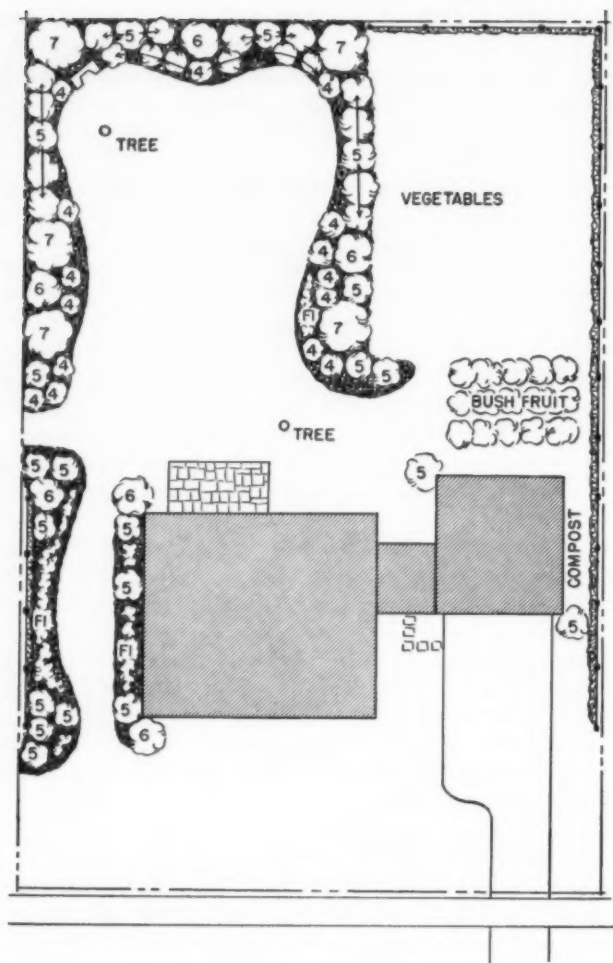


Figure 7. A large urban lot

Although this plan is prepared for a large urban lot, the same arrangement could be applied to a rural property by extending the side fences to the front property line. The house is connected to the garage by a breezeway. Space is provided for vegetables and bush fruits. The amount of flower garden space is subordinated and an informal shrub border encloses the rear lawn. If more flowers are wanted, the group of 4 shrubs could be replaced with flowers and the bed widened to the desired width. The outdoor fireplace may or need not be a part of the plan. The lawn area is ample in size for a variety of lawn games.

of from 1 foot to 18 inches only (figures 3 and 4). This permits the use of a maximum area for lawn and flower beds.

Somewhat wider properties, 60 feet or a little more in width, may be enclosed at the sides with a border of shrubs as indicated at the right in figure 2, F. A clipped hedge composed of tall-growing shrubs requires a width of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet (figure 2, D and figure 6).

A straight-line planting of tall-growing shrubs in their natural shape needs from 5 to 6 feet in width.

The depth of the rear lawn, the distance from the back of the house to the rear property line, governs the type of enclosure used at the back. Shallow lots are best enclosed at the rear with a vine-covered fence (figure 3). Building lots of medium depth may have a tall, clipped hedge or a single row of tall-growing shrubs at the back. A deep lot may have an informal shrub border (figure 7) composed of a bed two or more shrubs deep. An alternate method of planning a deep lot is to have a vegetable garden or some other special-use area across the back of the lot and a flower border, fence with vines, or a shrub border separating this area from the lawn (figure 4).

From the standpoint of good proportion, the rear lawn, or any other lawn, should be twice or more as long as it is wide. These measurements should be taken on the actual lawn space, not including the border plantings. Most home properties do not have lawns of this ideal shape but it is best to come as close to it as possible. On wide lots, this proportion is obtained by having the vegetable garden or some other use area at one side (figures 6 and 7). This takes up the excessive width and leaves a better proportioned lawn.

You may plant a border with a single row of shrubs of one variety selected from the suitable size groups. This planting gives a symmetrical appearance. All plants grow to the same height, and foliage texture and color are the same for all. The flowers, too, are the same color and all bloom at once. In more or less formal situations this may be the desired effect.

A variety of plants selected from suitable size groups produces a more interesting planting because of the seasonal effects obtained and because of the various foliage masses. You may select plants from different size groups with regard to their season of bloom, flower color, and foliage texture and color. Thus a more informal appearance is produced.

The straight-line developments illustrated here are economical of limited space. They are somewhat formal in appearance if the lawn is enclosed with a clipped hedge and the flowers are arranged in straight

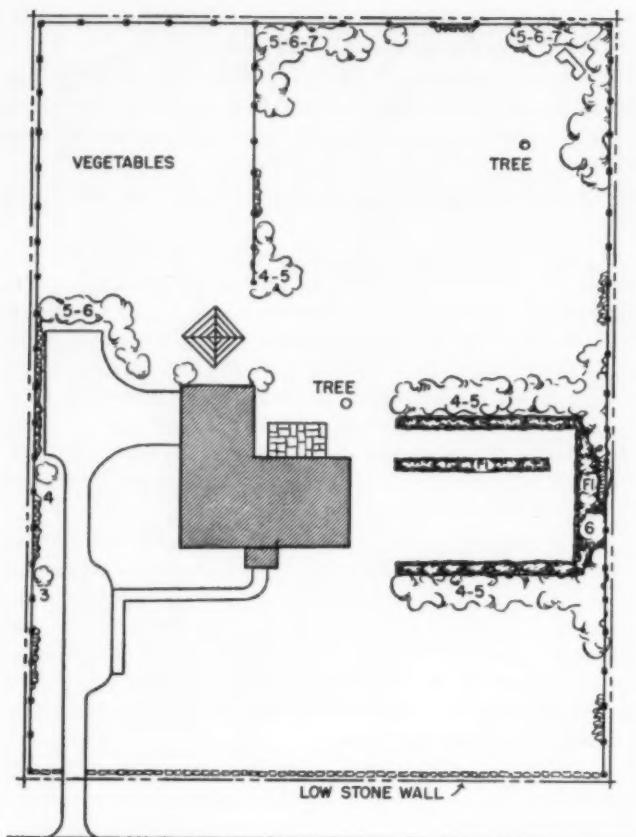


Figure 8. A plan for many uses

This rural property provides for most uses any family would want, including a flower garden, a vegetable garden, and a large lawn for outdoor recreation. The boundary fence extends to the front property line and need be only from 3 to 4 feet high and of rather open design. A low stone wall extends across the front of the property. The fence at the right of the vegetable garden should be of the same design but could be lower.

An alternate suggestion would be to have the fence enclose the rear lawn and a low stone wall extend from the end of this fence to the front property line and continue across the front of the property. The border plantings at the edges of the rear lawn are purposely kept simple with vines and dwarf shrubs used in places where distant views are obtained.

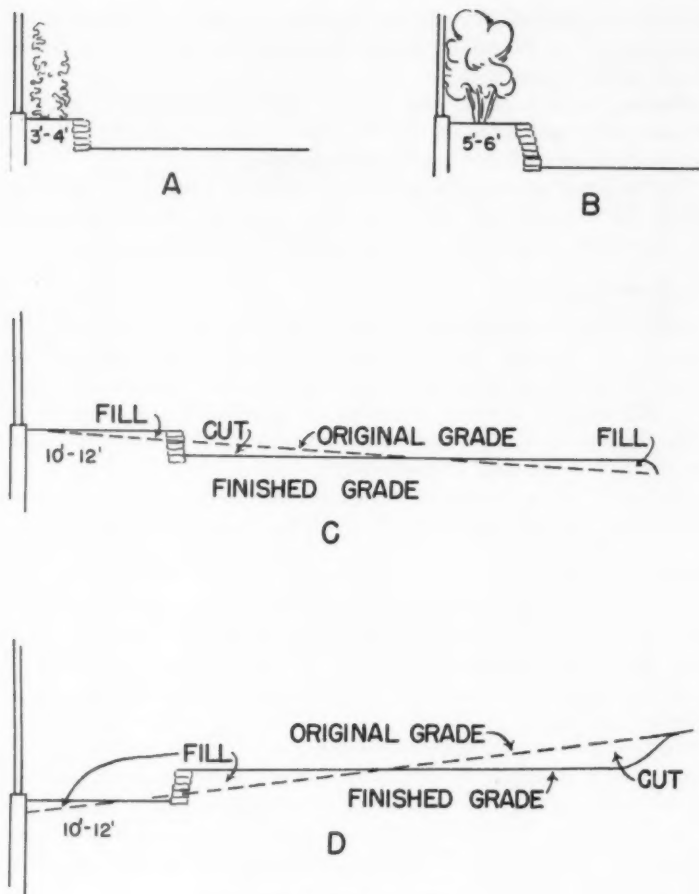


Figure 9. Grading the terrace

The width of a terrace near the house is governed largely by what is to be done on the higher level and the amount of soil available. A 3- to 4-foot terrace (A) is wide enough for flowers and dwarf shrubs. A 5- to 6-foot terrace (B) is wide enough for larger growing shrubs, and a 10- to 12-foot terrace (C and D) could contain a lawn or flagstone surface large enough for outdoor furniture. An outdoor fireplace could be built in the wall and steps should be built to give access from one level to the other. The grading illustrated in C and D shows how land sloping away from the house or toward the house can be converted into more level areas by moving a small amount of soil, equalizing the cut and fill. The grading illustrated provides more usable level lawn areas. All terraces should slope away from the house for surface drainage.

rows, symmetrically. The effect is, however, decidedly informal if you place the plants irregularly in the flower beds and grow the border plants in their natural shape.

Openings in a flower border and in a border of shrubs at any convenient point give access to the neighbor's property (figures 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7). You may place a gate in this opening.

You may put an outdoor fireplace or pool in a break in the flower bed at the rear or at the side. The lawn could be used for croquet or any other lawn games that may be played in a small area.

Small corner lots

Corner lots are developed in much the same way as other lots. A vine-covered fence or border of shrubs is used, depending upon the width of the lot, the position of the buildings, and the desired effect. Two different positions for the garage are shown in figures 5 and 6. On inside lots, privacy is obtained from an adjacent property; on corner lots, privacy is obtained from the street.

On these corner properties it is important to have no tall-growing plants near the intersection as they are a serious traffic hazard.

Rural properties

The opportunities to develop the rear or side lawn or rural properties are much greater than on small places. The more pleasant a rural home and its surroundings are made, the more enjoyable will be the living in that home. As with urban properties, what you do is governed by your interests.

On farm and non-farm rural home grounds, the position of the rear lawn gives considerable privacy because there are no nearby neighbors at the side and to the rear. Plan this area to give a feeling of openness. The horizon may be the margin of enclosure. Large lawns may be developed in a simple way; sometimes this simplicity provides the most satisfying effects.

You may use a fence of rather open design to define the parts maintained as a lawn. Sometimes a garage or other service building provides part of the enclosure. Openings or gates at appropriate places in the fence, and adequate in size, give access to other buildings or a field (figures 10, 11, and 12).

If more space is available at one side of the house than at the rear, use the side lawn for outdoor recreation (figure 12).

You may grow vines on the fence and, if you wish, place low-growing shrubs and a flower border in front of it. A view is obtained over these to the horizon. Tall plantings may be placed in front of the fence

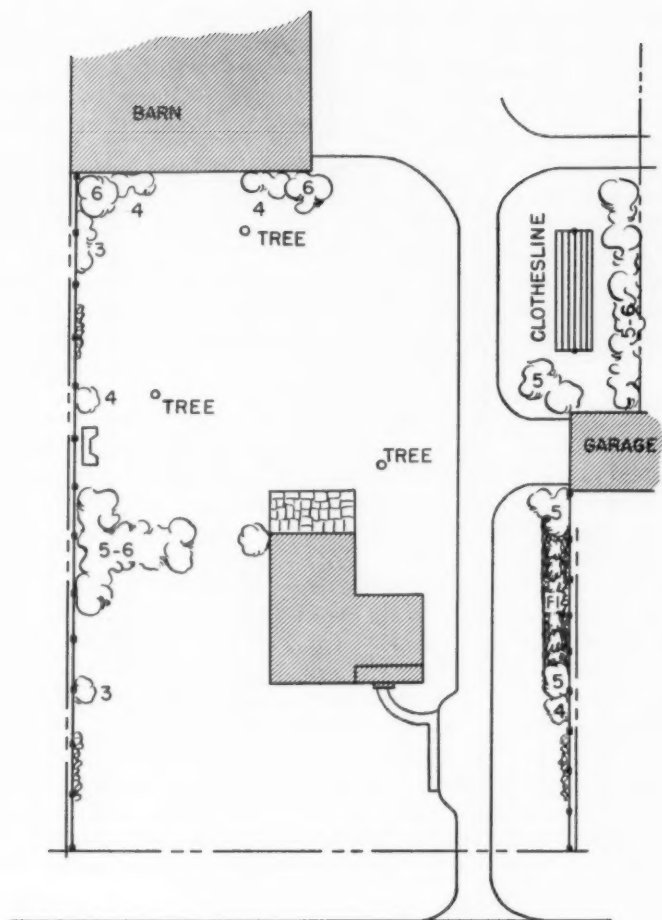


Figure 10. A planting for a farm home

This is a simple but effective planting for a farm home. The plantings have been kept simple but are carefully located to give privacy in the rear lawn and to screen the clothes-drying yard. Adjustments will have to be made to conform with the position of the service buildings and the desired amount of lawn space. If more flowers are wanted, they could be planted in a prepared bed near the fence at the left side of the lawn.

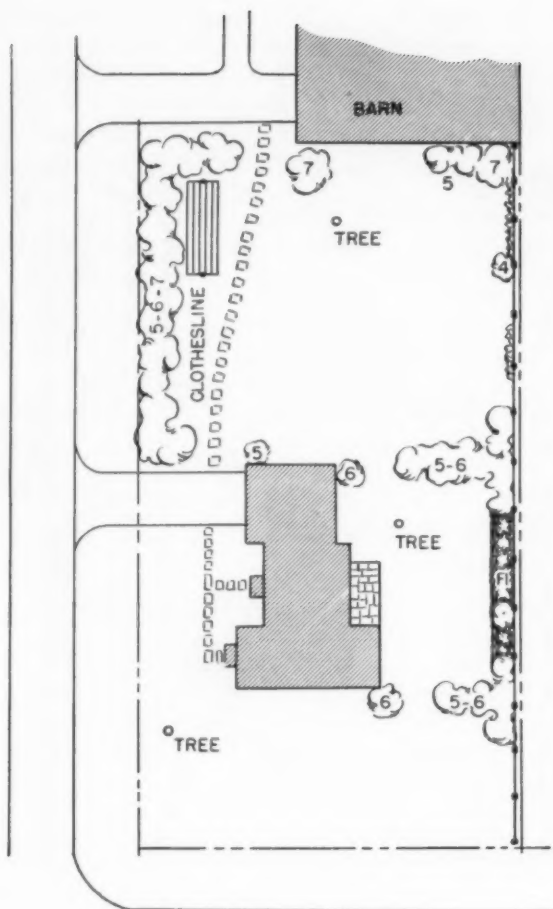


Figure 11. A farm home grounds

On this farm home grounds, at a road intersection, the rear lawn is large enough for lawn games. It is enclosed on the left with an informal border of shrubs which obstructs the view from the road. The shrubs that extend into the lawn opposite the right side of the house screen the view from the other road and give some privacy in the flower garden. Only one fence is used in this plan. It separates the maintained lawn from the adjacent field. There are no plantings near the road intersection where they would block the view.

where the view is undesirable or in positions where they will frame a good view. This does not mean that you should always use plantings to screen the view of all farm buildings. In many situations these buildings are a part of the rural scene and frequently enhance the picture rather than detract from it.

Rural homes at highway intersections

Rural homes at an intersection of roads may need a border planting of tall-growing shrubs parallel to the side road to give privacy in the outdoor-living lawn areas. Such plantings should be set on the owner's property, not on the highway property, and in positions where the view of this lawn will be effectively screened. Never make tall plantings near intersections, as they form a traffic hazard at the corner.

Service Areas

IN ANY of the plans shown here, whether large or small properties, a socket and clothes reel could be placed in any convenient place in the rear lawn. The reel can be folded and removed to its storage place in the garage. The socket is set low enough so the lawn mower can be run over it.

An alternate arrangement for a clothes drying yard is given in figure 6. Hooks are placed in the side of the garage and in an arch opposite. Place the hooks from 6 to 6½ feet high and remove the clothesline when not in use so the terrace will be available for outdoor living. Ideas of this kind are appropriate in situations where the family appliances include a clothes drier and the outside line will be used infrequently.

Put the compost pile in any out-of-sight location, such as the corner of the vegetable garden or back of the garage. Only a small space is needed for garbage and refuse cans reasonably near the kitchen entrance to the house. A small vine-covered trellis effectively conceals the cans.

A Few Best Plants for Clipped Hedges

The smaller-growing plants may be set 18 inches apart, and from 12 to 15 inches from property line, the medium-sized ones about 2 feet apart and 2 feet from property line, and the tall ones about 3 feet apart and about 2½ feet from the property line.

Low hedges from 1½ to 3 feet high

Deciduous

* Japanese barberry, *Berberis thunbergii*

†Box barberry, *Berberis thunbergii* 'Minor'

*Plants may be used satisfactorily for a 4 to 5 foot hedge.

†Requires little trimming.

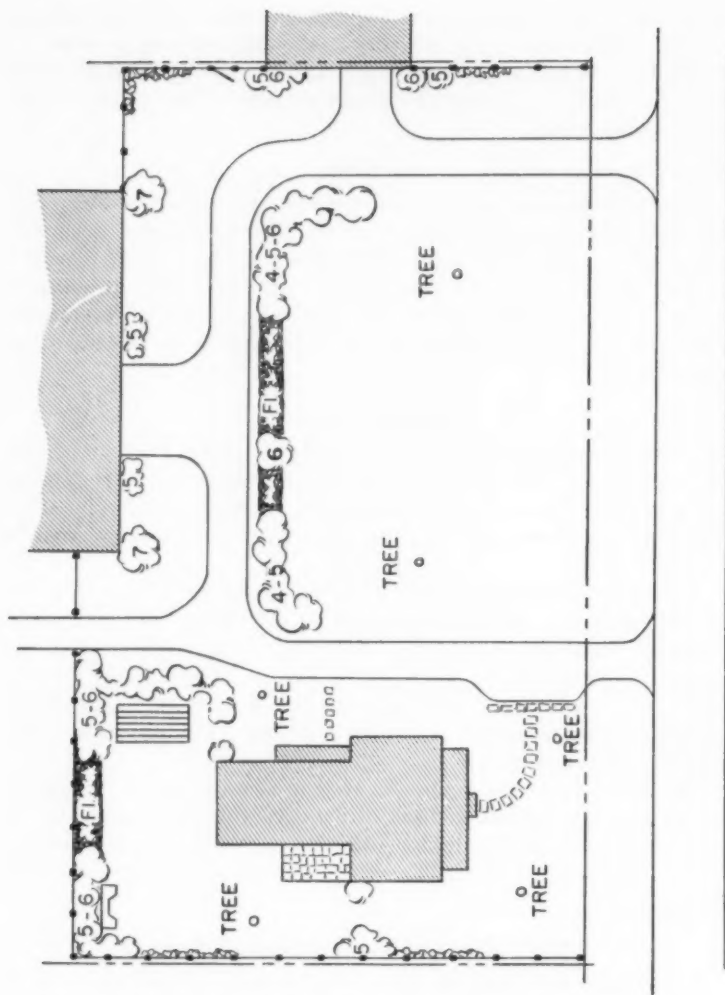


Figure 12. A farm home lawn with a semicircular driveway

Sometimes the farm home ground is wider than it is deep and a semicircular driveway breaks up the only large lawn area. If this space is large enough, it may be used for lawn games. A flagstone terrace is more private if it is placed on the opposite side of the house even though this space is comparatively small. A flower garden and picnic area feature this outdoor living space. The clothes line is screened from the road.

- * Regal privet, *Ligustrum obtusifolium* var. *regelianum* (*L. ibota* var. *regelianum*)
- †Dwarf ninebark, *Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Nanus'
- †Dwarf cranberrybush, *Viburnum opulus* 'Nanum'

Evergreen

- * Japanese yew, *Taxus cuspidata*
- †Dwarf Japanese yew, *Taxus cuspidata* 'Densa' and 'Nana'

Medium hedges from 4 to 5 feet high

Deciduous

Winged euonymus, *Euonymus alatus*
Amur privet, *Ligustrum amurense*

Evergreen

Thread retinospora, *Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Filifera'

Tall hedges 5 feet and more

Deciduous

- * Hawthorn, *Crataegus* in variety
- * Alder buckthorn, *Rhamnus frangula*
- Common lilac, *Syringa vulgaris*
- * Persian lilac, *Syringa persica*

Evergreen

- Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (*P. taxifolia*)
- * American arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*
- * Canada hemlock, *Tsuga canadensis*

Plant Lists

IN PLANNING new plantings it is of utmost importance to use the plants with regard to their mature size. A plant that does not meet the size requirement of a certain location is the wrong plant for that place. The following lists are not complete. They are divided into size groups, but it should be kept in mind that soil and moisture conditions will influence somewhat the mature size of a plant. Good soil produces a larger plant than does poor soil. Also, the same variety grows larger in a mild climate than in a colder one. Annual pruning, if necessary, keeps the plants in the size group listed.

*Plants may be used satisfactorily for a 4 to 5 foot hedge.
†Requires little trimming.

The following plants are classified according to the height they will attain under average New York State conditions.

Scientific names of plants follow L. H. Bailey's *Manual of Cultivated Plants* (1949), and were revised in 1959 by Dr. William J. Dress of the Bailey Hortorium to conform with international use.

Key:

*Will tolerate shade

†Requires an acid soil

‡Not quite hardy in exposed locations

§Prefers moist locations

The name in parentheses is the old name

Group 1. Vines for trellises or fences

Where more than one vine is to be planted along a fence to be densely covered, the small-growing vines should be planted from 10 to 12 feet apart; large-growing vines should be set about 15 feet apart. The letter *l* following the name of a plant indicates a vine that is large and rank in growth. The letter *s* indicates a vine that is smaller in growth.

Deciduous

- * Bower actinidia, *Actinidia arguta* l
- * Fiveleaf akebia, *Akebia quinata* s
- * Dutchmans-pipe, *Aristolochia durior* (*A. siphon*) l
- * American bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens* l
- Trumpet creeper, *Campsis radicans* (*Bignonia radicans*) l
- * ‡Clematis in variety s
- * Trumpet honeysuckle, *Lonicera sempervirens* s
- ‡China fleece-vine, *Polygonum aubertii* l
- Japanese wisteria, *Wisteria floribunda* l
- ‡Climbing and rambler roses (Must be attached to the support; some large, some small)

Semi-Evergreen

- * Hall honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica* 'Halliana' l

Group 2. Ground covers

The spacing of ground covers varies considerably among the individuals listed here. Each plant is marked with a number which represents the distance apart to plant each.

Deciduous

- Memorial rose, *Rosa wichuraiana* 3'

Evergreen

- * Sharpleaf wintercreeper, *Euonymus fortunei* 4'
- * Baby wintercreeper, *Euonymus fortunei* 'Minimus' 3'
- * †Wintergreen, *Gaultheria procumbens* 1'
- Sargent juniper, *Juniperus chinensis* 'Sargentii' 4'
- Waukegan juniper, *Juniperus horizontalis* 'Douglasii' 4'
- * †Partridgeberry, *Mitchella repens* 1'
- * Japanese pachysandra, *Pachysandra terminalis* 1'
- * Common periwinkle, *Vinca minor* 1'

Group 3. Shrubs from 1½ to 3 feet high

The shrubs listed in this size group should be spaced 3 feet apart except where otherwise noted by the number following the name of the plant.

Deciduous

- Jersey tea, *Ceanothus americanus*
- Rockspray, *Cotoneaster horizontalis*
- ‡Slender deutzia, *Deutzia gracilis*
- Golden St. Johnswort, *Hypericum frondosum* 4'
- Thibetan honeysuckle, *Lonicera thibetica* 4'
- Flowering almond, *Prunus glandulosa* 'Sinensis'
- Anthony Waterer spirea, *Spiraea bumalda* 'Anthony Waterer'
- * Coralberry, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus* (*S. vulgaris*)
- Dwarf cranberrybush, *Viburnum opulus* 'Nanum'

Evergreens

- Rose daphne, *Daphne cneorum* 2'
- Andorra juniper, *Juniperus horizontalis* 'Plumosa' 4'
- * †Drooping leucothoe, *Leucothoe editorum* (*L. catesbaei*)
- * †Mountain andromeda, *Pieris floribunda* 4'
- * †Daphne rhododendron, *Rhododendron arbutifolium* 4'
- * †Myrtle rhododendron, *Rhododendron myrtifolium* 4'
- * Canada yew, *Taxus canadensis* 5'
- * Dwarf Japanese yew, *Taxus cuspidata* 'Nana' 4'
- * Little gem arbovitae, *Thuja occidentalis* 'Pumila'

Group 4. Shrubs from 4 to 5 feet high

The shrubs listed in this size group should be spaced 4 feet apart except where otherwise noted by the number following the name of the plant.

Deciduous

- *§ Black chokeberry, *Aronia melanocarpa*
- * Japanese barberry, *Berberis thunbergii*
- Butterflybush, *Buddleja davidii*
- ‡Beautyberry, *Callicarpa dichotoma* (*C. purpurea*)
- Russian pea-tree, *Caragana frutex* 'Grandiflora'
- Spreading cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster divaricata*
- * Hybrid Japanese quince, *Chaenomeles superba*
- †February daphne, *Daphne mezereum*
- * Drooping goldenbell, *Forsythia suspensa* 5'
- * Snowhill hydrangea, *Hydrangea arborescens* f. *grandiflora*
- ‡Kerria, *Kerria japonica*
- * Regal privet, *Ligustrum obtusifolium* var. *regelianum* (*L. ibota* var. *regelianum*)
- * American fly honeysuckle, *Lonicera canadensis*
- Lemoine mochorange, *Philadelphus lemoinei*
- Double-flowering plum, *Prunus triloba* 'Multiplex'

- * †Pinxter bloom, *Rhododendron nudiflorum* (*Azalea nudiflora*)
- * †Japanese azalea, *Rhododendron japonicum* (*Azalea japonica*)
- * †Downy pinxterbloom, *Rhododendron roseum* (*Azalea rosea*)
- * Fragrant sumac, *Rhus aromatica* (*R. canadensis*)
- Rose acacia, *Robinia hispida*
- Rugosa rose, *Rosa rugosa*
- Virginia rose, *Rosa virginiana* (*R. lucida*)
- Garland spirea, *Spiraea arguta*
- ‡Billiard spirea, *Spiraea billiardii*
- ‡Thunberg spirea, *Spiraea thunbergii*
- Ural false-spirea, *Sorbaria sorbifolia*
- * Cutleaf stephanandra, *Stephanandra incisa* (*S. flexuosa*)
- * Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos albus* var. *laevigatus* (*S. racemosus* var. *laevigatus*)
- * Mapleleaf viburnum, *Viburnum acerifolium*
- ‡Fragrant viburnum, *Viburnum carlesii*
- Weigela, *Weigela hybrida*

Evergreen

- Pfitzer juniper, *Juniperus chinensis* 'Pfitzeriana' 6'
- Savin juniper, *Juniperus sabina*
- * †Mountain laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*
- * Shrub Japanese yew, *Taxus cuspidata* 6'
- Ware arbovitae, *Thuja occidentalis* 'Robusta' ('Wareana')

Group 5. Shrubs from 6 to 8 feet high

The shrubs listed in this size group should be spaced 5 feet apart except where otherwise noted by the number following the name of the plant.

Deciduous

- ‡Scarlet Japanese maple, *Acer palmatum*
- ‡Common sweetshrub, *Calycanthus floridus*
- § Summer sweet, *Clethra alnifolia*
- * § Red-stem dogwood, *Cornus alba*
- * Gray dogwood, *Cornus racemosa*
- Winged euonymus, *Euonymus alatus*
- * Showy goldenbell, *Forsythia intermedia* 'Spectabilis'
- ‡Shrub althea, *Hibiscus syriacus*
- § Winterberry, *Ilex verticillata*
- ‡Beautybush, *Kolkwitzia amabilis*
- * § Spice bush, *Lindera benzoin* (*Benzoin aestivale*)
- ‡Winter honeysuckle, *Lonicera fragrantissima*
- * Morrow honeysuckle, *Lonicera morrowii* 6'
- Bayberry, *Myrica pensylvanica* (*M. carolinensis*)
- Jetbead, *Rhodotypos tetrapetala* (*R. kerrioides*)
- * Flowering currant, *Ribes odoratum*
- Hugonis rose, *Rosa hugonis*
- Harrisons yellow rose, *Rosa harisonii* (*R. foetida* var. *harisonii*)

- § American elder, *Sambucus canadensis*
- § Scarlet elderberry, *Sambucus pubens*
- Bridalwreath, *Spiraea prunifolia* 'Plena'
- Van Houtte spirea, *Spiraea vanhouttei*
- Chinese lilac, *Syringa chinensis* 6'
- *§ Withe rod, *Viburnum cassinoides*
- *§ Arrowwood, *Viburnum dentatum*
- Linden viburnum, *Viburnum dilatatum*
- Japanese snowball, *Viburnum plicatum* (*V. tomentosum* var. *sterile*) 6'

Evergreens

- * ‡Rhododendrons in variety
- * Hatfield yew, *Taxus media* 'Hatfieldii'

Group 6. Large shrubs from 8 to 15 feet high

The large-growing shrubs listed in this size group should be spaced 8 feet apart except where otherwise noted by the number following the name of the plant.

Deciduous

- Siberian pea tree, *Caragana arborescens*
- * Wahoo, *Euonymus atropurpurea*
- * Amur privet, *Ligustrum amurense*
- Tatarian honeysuckle, *Lonicera tatarica*
- * Late honeysuckle, *Lonicera maackii* var. *podocarpa*
- Sweet mockorange, *Philadelphus coronarius*
- Virginal mockorange, *Philadelphus virginialis*
- * Buckthorn, *Rhamnus cathartica*
- Common smoke tree, *Cotinus coggygia* (*Rhus cotinus*)
- Late lilac, *Syringa villosa*
- * Garden lilac, *Syringa vulgaris*
- French hybrid lilacs
- * Nannyberry, *Viburnum lentago*

Evergreens

- Thread retinospora, *Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Filifera'
- * Upright Japanese yew, *Taxus cuspidata* 'Capitata'
- * Hicks yew, *Taxus media* 'Hicksii'
- * Pyramidal arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis* 'Douglasii Pyramidalis' 3'

Group 7. Small trees from 15 to 20 feet high

The spacing of trees listed in this size group varies considerably, from 2 to 3 feet apart to 10 to 15 feet apart, according to the desired effect. When set close together, they crowd each other, often producing a picturesque group with curving trunks and branches. More normal shaped plants are produced when wider spacings are used. Some of the plants listed here sometimes grow in shrub form. They may be kept in tree form by cutting off all except from 2 to 5 of the main branches at the base.

Deciduous

- * Allegheny shadblow, *Amelanchier laevis*
- * ‡Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*
- ‡White fringe tree, *Chionanthus virginicus*
- * Pagoda dogwood, *Cornus alternifolia*
- * ‡Flowering dogwood, *Cornus florida*
- * Cornelian cherry, *Cornus mas*
- Hawthorn (in variety), *Crataegus*
- ‡Great silverbell, *Halesia carolina* (*H. tetraptera*)
- * Common witchhazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*

Evergreens

Chinese juniper, *Juniperus chinensis*
Red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*
American arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*



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